

(2) the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to sell and convey National Forest System lands and the Pueblo shall have the exclusive right to acquire these lands as provided for in section 7 of the Settlement Agreement, and the funds received by the Secretary of Agriculture for such sales shall be deposited in the fund established under the Act of December 4, 1967 (16 U.S.C. 484a) and shall be available to purchase non-Federal lands within or adjacent to the National Forests in the State of New Mexico;

(3) lands conveyed by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to this section shall no longer be considered part of the National Forest System and upon any conveyance of National Forest lands, the boundaries of the Santa Fe National Forest shall be deemed modified to exclude such lands;

(4) until the National Forest lands are conveyed to the Pueblo pursuant to this section, or until the Pueblo's right to purchase such lands expires pursuant to section 7 of the Settlement Agreement, such lands are withdrawn, subject to valid existing rights, from any new public use or entry under any Federal land law, except for permits not to exceed 1 year, and shall not be identified for any disposition by or for any agency, and no mineral production or harvest of forest products shall be permitted, except that nothing in this subsection shall preclude forest management practices on such lands, including the harvest of timber in the event of fire, disease, or insect infestation; and

(5) once the Pueblo has acquired title to the former National Forest System lands, these lands may be conveyed by the Pueblo to the Secretary of the Interior who shall accept and hold such lands in the name of the United States in trust for the benefit of the Pueblo.

#### **SEC. 6. AFFIRMATION OF ACCURATE BOUNDARIES OF SANTO DOMINGO PUEBLO GRANT.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The boundaries of the Santo Domingo Pueblo Grant, as determined by the 1907 Hall-Joy Survey, confirmed in the Report of the Pueblo Lands Board, dated December 28, 1927, are hereby declared to be the current boundaries of the Grant and any lands currently owned by or on behalf of the Pueblo within such boundaries, or any lands hereinafter acquired by the Pueblo within the Grant in fee simple absolute, shall be considered to be Indian country within the meaning of section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(b) **LIMITATION.**—Any lands or interests in lands within the Santo Domingo Pueblo Grant, that are not owned or acquired by the Pueblo, shall not be treated as Indian country within the meaning of section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(c) **ACQUISITION OF FEDERAL LANDS.**—Any Federal lands acquired by the Pueblo pursuant to section 5(c)(1) shall be held in trust by the Secretary for the benefit of the Pueblo, and shall be treated as Indian country within the meaning of section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(d) **LAND SUBJECT TO PROVISIONS.**—Any lands acquired by the Pueblo pursuant to section 5(c), or with funds subject to section 5(b), shall be subject to the provisions of section 17 of the Act of June 7, 1924 (43 Stat. 641; commonly referred to as the Pueblo Lands Act).

(e) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this Act or in the Settlement Agreement shall be construed to—

(1) cloud title to federally administered lands or non-Indian or other Indian lands, with regard to claims of title which are extinguished pursuant to section 5; or

(2) affect actions taken prior to the date of enactment of this Act to manage federally administered lands within the boundaries of the Santo Domingo Pueblo Grant.

#### **MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3187**

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I understand that S. 3187 is at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3187) to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to apply aggregate upper payment limits to non-State publicly owned or operated facilities under the Medicaid program.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I now ask for its second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, over the past several months, the Finance Committee has been focusing its oversight attention on an urgent problem in the Medicaid program related to the use of upper payment limits to exploit federal Medicaid spending. The Health Care Financing Administration, HCFA, had assured me that it would solve the problem. It has not.

Instead, last week HCFA released a notice of proposed rulemaking that sanctions the de facto abuse of this vitally important program—a program that provides health care coverage to 40 million low-income pregnant women, children, individuals with disabilities, and senior citizens. This Administration has failed to live up to its responsibility to protect the financial integrity of the Medicaid program. Accordingly, I am introducing legislation today to do the right thing and stop the draining of potentially tens of billions of dollars from this program for our most vulnerable citizens.

The problem confronting the program is a complicated one. Through the inappropriate use of aggregated upper payment limits, some states have been using the Medicaid program inappropriately, including for purposes such as filling in holes in state budgets. This has turned a program intended to provide health insurance coverage to vulnerable populations into a bank account for state projects having nothing to do with health care.

In fact, as I examine the current situation I am vividly reminded of the Medicaid spending scandals we confronted 10 years ago when disproportionate share hospital program dollars were used to build roads, bridges and highways. Let me be very clear—this cannot be permitted to continue without endangering the program.

The use of this complicated accounting mechanism may seem dry and technical—but let me assure you that the consequences are enormous. If un-

checked, both the General Accounting Office and the Office of Inspector General at the Department of Health and Human Services agree that we face a situation that fundamentally undermines the fiscal integrity of the Medicaid program and circumvents the traditional partnership of financial responsibility shared between the federal and state governments.

I have been advised that what states are doing through upper payment limits is technically not illegal. The states are taking advantage of a loophole in HCFA regulations. It is time to close that loophole fully.

We must act because nearly 40 million of the neediest Americans rely on Medicaid for needed health care services. It is nothing short of a safety net. The program must not be undermined and weakened by clever consultants and state budgeters. What looks like loopholes to some are holes in Medicaid safety net for 40 million Americans.

Several months ago, I began working with the Administration to respond to this scandal. We must stop it in its tracks—while of course at the same time working thoughtfully and carefully with those states that have become dependent on the revenues generated through the use of upper payment limits to help them transition to a more sustainable payment relationship between the state and federal government.

Finally, last week, after repeated delays, this Administration released its notice of proposed rulemaking—in a form much weaker than it originally intended when I first started working with HCFA on this problem last spring. The proposed regulation is inadequate. Instead of stopping a burgeoning Medicaid spending scandal, the proposed regulation looks the other way and tolerates the abuse of the program.

The proposed regulation permits facilities to be reimbursed for providing services at a rate one and a half times that Medicare would have paid for a given service. Then states are free to pocket the difference between the payment level and the often much lower Medicaid payment rates through intergovernmental transfers. Not only does the regulation allow those who are exploiting the program to continue to do so, it also invites all others to come in and help themselves. The regulation permits the scam to continue while only modestly attempting to contain its magnitude.

Simply containing wasteful spending is not sufficient. The American taxpayer who pays the bills should not stand for it, nor should the beneficiaries who depend on the program. In fact, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, whose advocacy on social policy issues is well-known, agrees that the scam must be shut down or the long-term health of the program will be jeopardized.

Not only does the proposed regulation fail to protect the financial integrity of the Medicaid program, it also has a very low probability of ever being implemented. There is virtually no chance this Administration will be able to finalize the proposed regulation before it leaves office in January. Until the regulation is finalized, nothing changes. No abuser state has to modify its behavior one bit, and more and more states will be under pressure to take advantage of the windfall their neighbor states are enjoying. If anything, the White House action may spur greater abuse in the Medicaid program.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that truly solving the problem will save taxpayers \$127 billion over the next decade. The stakes are high and we owe it to the 40 million Medicaid beneficiaries to protect the program so it remains strong and viable for the years to come.

Accordingly, today I am introducing legislation that does what HCFA should have done but failed to do. My bill does not sanction abuse—it stops it. It closes the loophole, and treats non-state governmental facilities the same way state facilities are already treated. For those states with upper payment limits approved by HCFA already in place, it gives them two years to fully transition into compliance with the law. But no longer will schemes to exploit federal funding be tolerated. Even if HCFA is willing to look the other way, I am not. We must think about the long-term interests of the program and act now to stop the abuse. We should save the safety net for those that depend on it and save \$127 billion over the next decade for the American taxpayer at the same time.

#### CORRECTING THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3244

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 149, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 149) to correct the enrollment of H.R. 3244.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Con. Res. 149) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 149

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Clerk of the*

House of Representatives, in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 3244) to combat trafficking of persons, especially into the sex trade, slavery, and slavery-like conditions, in the United States and countries around the world through prevention, through prosecution and enforcement against traffickers, and through protection and assistance to victims of trafficking, shall make the following correction.

(1) In section 2002(a)(2)(A)(ii), strike “June 7, 1999,” and insert “December 13, 1999.”

#### SOUTHEAST FEDERAL CENTER PUBLIC-PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2000

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 905, H.R. 3069.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3069) to authorize the Administrator of General Services to provide for redevelopment of the Southeast Federal Center in the District of Columbia.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Governmental Affairs with amendments, as follows:

(Omit the part in boldface brackets and insert the part printed in italic.)

H.R. 3069

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Southeast Federal Center Public-Private Development Act of 2000”.

#### SEC. 2. SOUTHEAST FEDERAL CENTER DEFINED.

In this Act, the term “Southeast Federal Center” means the site in the southeast quadrant of the District of Columbia that is under the control and jurisdiction of the General Services Administration and extends from Issac Hull Avenue on the east to 1st Street on the west, and from M Street on the north to the Anacostia River on the south, excluding an area on the river at 1st Street owned by the District of Columbia and a building west of Issac Hull Avenue and south of Tingey Street under the control and jurisdiction of the Department of the Navy.

#### SEC. 3. SOUTHEAST FEDERAL CENTER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of General Services may enter into agreements (including leases, contracts, cooperative agreements, limited partnerships, joint ventures, trusts, and limited liability company agreements) with a private entity to provide for the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, operation, maintenance, or use of the Southeast Federal Center, including improvements thereon, or such other activities related to the Southeast Federal Center as the Administrator considers appropriate.

(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—An agreement entered into under this section—

(1) shall have as its primary purpose enhancing the value of the Southeast Federal Center to the United States;

(2) shall be negotiated pursuant to such procedures as the Administrator considers necessary to ensure the integrity of the selection process and to protect the interests of the United States;

(3) may provide a lease option to the United States, to be exercised at the discretion of the Administrator, to occupy any general purpose office space in a facility covered under the agreement;

(4) shall not require, unless specifically determined otherwise by the Administrator, Federal ownership of a facility covered under the agreement after the expiration of any lease of the facility to the United States;

(5) shall describe the consideration, duties, and responsibilities for which the United States and the private entity are responsible;

(6) shall provide—

(A) that the United States will not be liable for any action, debt, or liability of any entity created by the agreement; and

(B) that such entity may not execute any instrument or document creating or evidencing any indebtedness unless such instrument or document specifically disclaims any liability of the United States under the instrument or document; and

(7) shall include such other terms and conditions as the Administrator considers appropriate.

(c) CONSIDERATION.—An agreement entered into under this section shall be for fair consideration, as determined by the Administrator. Consideration under such an agreement may be provided in whole or in part through in-kind consideration. In-kind consideration may include provision of space, goods, or services of benefit to the United States, including construction, repair, remodeling, or other physical improvements of Federal property, maintenance of Federal property, or the provision of office, storage, or other usable space.

(d) AUTHORITY TO CONVEY.—In carrying out an agreement entered into under this section, the Administrator is authorized to convey interests in real property, by lease, sale, or exchange, to a private entity.

(e) OBLIGATIONS TO MAKE PAYMENTS.—Any obligation to make payments by the Administrator for the use of space, goods, or services by the General Services Administration on property that is subject to an agreement under this section may only be made to the extent that necessary funds have been made available, in advance, in an annual appropriations Act, to the Administrator from the Federal Buildings Fund established by section 210(f) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 490(f)).

(f) NATIONAL [CAPITOL] CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION.—

(1) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to limit or otherwise affect the authority of the National Capital Planning Commission with respect to the Southeast Federal Center.

(2) VISION PLAN.—An agreement entered into under this section shall ensure that redevelopment of the Southeast Federal Center is consistent, to the extent practicable (as determined by the Administrator, in consultation with the National Capital Planning Commission), with the objectives of the National Capital Planning Commission's vision plan entitled “Extending the Legacy: Planning America's Capital in the 21st Century”, adopted by the Commission in November 1997.

(g) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The authority of the Administrator under this section shall not be subject to—

(A) section 321 of the Act of June 30, 1932 (40 U.S.C. 303b);